

Summer 2010 EcoAdventures Program Packet





Miami-Dade Parks & Recreation EcoAdventures Summer Programs 2010



A.D. Barnes Park Nature Center
3401 SW 72nd Avenue
Miami, Fl. 33155
(305) 662-4124 (O)

Crandon Park
6767 Crandon Boulevard
Key Biscayne, Fl. 33149
(305) 361-6767 Ext. 112 (O)
(305) 365-8434 (F)

Greynolds Park & Nature Center
17530 W. Dixie Highway
North Miami Beach, Fl. 33160
(305) 944-6111 (O)
(305) 945-3428 (F)

Arch Creek Park & Museum
1855 NE 135th Street
North Miami, Fl. 33181
(305) 944-6111 (O)
(305) 945-3428 (F)

Deering Estate at Cutler
16701 SW 72nd Avenue
Miami, Fl. 33157
(305) 235-1668 Ext. 242 (O)
(305) 254-5866 (F)

Matheson Hammock
9610 Old Cutler Road
Miami, Fl
(305) 662-4124 (O)

Reservations & Confirmations

It is important to schedule your field trips well in advance as dates fill up quickly.

A completed registration form must be received in our office(s) to confirm your program date. **Your date will only be reserved and guaranteed once we have received a completed and signed registration form in our office(s).** A confirmation packet will be sent to your facility after receiving a registration form, it will include your confirmed date and for all aquatic programs, a swim test form and safety waivers. Please arrive on time to ensure your group experiences the complete program or notify us if you will be delayed.

Miami Dade County Parks and Recreation Summer Camps:

All regions summer registration sign ups will be held at Tamiami Park Recreation Center on **March 18, 2010 from 11am to 2pm** on a 1st come, 1st served basis.

Teachers, Camp Counselors and Chaperones

- **Land-based Adventure Programs:** We require there be at least one adult chaperone for every ten participants (1:10). There is no charge for teachers or the required number of chaperones except at Deering Estate. Adults over the required number of chaperones will be charged the program fee.
- **Aquatic Adventure Programs:** We require there be at least one adult chaperone for every six participants (1:6). There is no charge for the required number of chaperones. Chaperones must participate in the aquatic program so please dress accordingly.

Chaperones, not park naturalists, are responsible for the behavior, discipline and safety of their group. Please be observant and safety conscious to prevent accidents from occurring.

Cancellation Policy

The EcoAdventures program sites may cancel programs and activities when weather or other circumstances beyond our control make it necessary. Every attempt will be made to reschedule your field trip date. **Please be aware that no-shows or cancellations made less than 24 hours prior to the field trip will require full payment of the program fee.** Programs will be conducted rain or shine. However, they will be postponed at the first sign of lightning.

Payment

Cash, check or journal entry (JE) payments are accepted. For journal entry (JE) payments, please make sure the field trip leader/counselor brings the appropriate code or have your facility call the appropriate program site with the (JE) code prior to your field trip date.

Important Conditions

It is absolutely necessary for participants to inform the trip leader of any medical conditions that may require attention during the program. For **Aquatic Programs**, Miami-Dade County regulations require lifejackets to be worn at all times by all participants (this includes participating counselors). For each participant, safety waivers and swim test forms must be turned in to the park naturalist upon arrival. All participants are required to have passed a swim test conducted by a lifeguard prior to the field trip date. Naturalist guides must be informed of any non-swimmers, as these students will not be allowed to participate in the water-based program.

Important Conditions for Crandon Park's Aquatic Programs: Programs that involve snorkeling sometimes experience seasonal waves of jellyfish and man-o-war. We will not snorkel if the park naturalist determines that high numbers of these venomous creatures make it unsafe. Anyone with hyper-allergic reactions to bites or stings should not go in the water during these periods.

Required Attire: Participants will be outside, so have them dress appropriately for the weather. Closed-toed shoes are required by participants and chaperones. Play clothes are recommended, because the children may get dirty during some of the activities. Make sure the children have sun protection and bug repellent. Water bottles are strongly recommended. For aquatic activities, please make sure each participant brings a bathing suit, towel, closed-toed shoes (that can get wet). Participants and chaperones will not be allowed to participate in any activity if wearing flip-flops or other open-toed shoes.

Lunch

Picnic tables will be provided for your group. Participants must bring and carry their own lunch. We recommend that lunches be packed in a way that the chaperones or individual participants can easily transport them to the assigned lunch area. Restrooms and water fountains are located near the lunch area. Feeding of animals is strictly prohibited. Please help keep your park clean and litter free for other visitors and wildlife.

Individuals with Special Needs

Our park staff will make every effort to meet your group's program needs. Please inform the park staff of any special needs or considerations when making a reservation for your program. To request material in accessible format, information on access for persons with disabilities, or sign language interpreter services (7 days in advance), call 305-365-6706.

Park Manners

Loud noises keep animals in hiding and reduce your chances of seeing them. Therefore, be kind to the animals and plants at the park. Harassing wildlife is against the law and can harm the animals. Feeding the animals encourages them to be dependent on humans, which leads to increased chances of humans being bitten by that animal. Plants require their leaves to make food and their flowers to produce seeds so please do not pick the leaves, flowers, or bark of the plants.

Please make sure this information is relayed to all participants and trip supervisors.



A.D. Barnes Park

Summer EcoAdventures 2010

3401 SW 72nd Ave., Miami, FL 33155

305-662-4125 Office

adnature@miamidade.gov



Option A: South Florida Alien Invaders - Outreach

South Florida is being invaded by exotic roaches 3 inches long to Burmese Pythons over 15 feet long! Your campers will be led on a fascinating discussion about the impact that exotic animals are having on South Florida's fragile environment such as the Everglades or in your own backyard! Live animals will be used for this demonstration.

Appropriate for all ages (Ages: 6-14)

Outreach Presentation: 1 hour. Program Fee: \$6 per participant

Maximum: 40 participants per presentation

Option B: Making Slime Workshop - All about "Slimy Animals!" Outreach

Your campers will be making slime and know how some animals such as slugs, fish, and frogs rely on slime for survival. They will have fun learning about what is happening in the chemical reaction in making "slime", and the role that slime plays by animals for all kinds of protective uses. Your children can keep the slime they make.

Appropriate for all ages (Ages: 6-14)

Outreach Presentation: 1 hour. Program Fee: \$6 per participant

Maximum: 40 participants per presentation



Arch Creek Park

Summer EcoAdventures 2010

1855 NE 135th Street, North Miami, FL 33181

305-944-6111 Office / 305-945-3428 Fax



Option A: Archaeology: A Link to our Past (available Onsite & Outreach)

Take an in-depth journey into a mysterious world found beneath your feet to learn what archaeology is, and why it is important through hands-on activities and a Power-point program conducted in the museum. After the presentation, your campers will become archaeologists for the day by conducting a professional excavation in a real life archaeological preserve. At the end of the program, your campers will receive a certificate naming them a true Junior Archaeologist! Appropriate for all ages (Ages: 6-14)

Duration of program: 3 hours, including 30-minute lunch break. Program Fee: \$6 per participant

Maximum: 60 participants

Outreach Presentation: 1 hour

Program Fee: \$6 per participant

Maximum: 40 participants



Crandon Park

Summer EcoAdventures 2010

6767 Crandon Blvd., Key Biscayne, FL 33149

305-361-6767 Ext. 112 Office / 305-365-8434 Fax



Aquatic Programs

Option A: Snorkeling Workshop

Embark on a program like no other as you explore the best of both worlds on a barrier island. Campers will trek along the Bear Cut Preserve beach with one of our naturalists. Campers will explore the underwater shallow habitats of the island. Wildlife viewings are a plenty on this adventure. Masks and snorkels are provided.

Counselors are required to participate (1:6 ratio). Lead counselor must bring a completed swim test log. Closed-toed shoes are required for campers and counselors. MUST pass swim test and bring proof to participate.

Duration of program: 2.5 hours, including 30-minute lunch break.

Program Fee: \$8 per participant (County Parks) / \$15 other organizations

Maximum: 30 participants

Option B: Kayak Workshop

There is simply no better way to experience the beauty of the clear waters of Key Biscayne and its rich marine life than from the seat of an ocean kayak. Join our naturalists as they give a lesson on kayaking and then take you along our coastline to view the contrasting skyline of an ever-growing city surrounded by a little bit of Old Florida.

Counselors are required to participate (1:6 ratio). Lead counselor must bring a completed swim test log. Closed-toed shoes are required for campers and counselors. MUST pass swim test and bring proof to participate.

Duration of program: 2.5 hours, including 30-minute lunch break.

Program Fee: \$8 per participant (County Parks) / \$15 other organizations

Maximum: 30 participants

Outreach Programs

Option C: Sea Turtle Outreach

Explore the wonders of these ancient creatures by visiting an important nesting beach in South Florida. Program includes a PowerPoint presentation. Appropriate for all ages (Ages: 6-14)

Outreach Presentation: 1 hour Program Fee: \$6 per participant

Maximum: 40 participants per presentation

Option D: Ocean Adventure (Traveling Touch Tank) Outreach

Starfish, Conchs and Sea urchins! Oh My! Explore the seagrass ecosystem through a PowerPoint presentation and a hands-on touch tank of all the amazing critters found there. Learn a few of the commonly found creatures as well as the different types of seagrass and its importance. Appropriate for all ages (Ages: 6-14)

Outreach Presentation: 1 hour Program Fee: \$6 per participant

Maximum: 40 participants per presentation

Land-based Programs

Option E: Sea Turtle Adventure

Explore the wonders of these ancient creatures by visiting an important nesting beach in South Florida.

Campers will take a walk along the natural beach of Bear Cut Preserve where they will learn how to identify a sea turtle nest and learn how sea turtles construct their nests. Program includes a 45 minute presentation.

Appropriate for all ages (Ages: 6-14). **Duration of program: 3 hours, including a 30-minute lunch break.**

Program Fee: \$6 per participant Maximum: 60 participants

Option F: Crandon Adventure

This program is perfect for younger campers! It includes a day of fun at the park where students can observe local wildlife on an open-air tram ride through Crandon Park. Campers will also have time in the amusement area where they will have access to a playground, water play area (depending on water restrictions) and our restored historic carousel. Appropriate for 6 to 9 year olds.

**Duration of program: 3 hours, including a 30-minute lunch break. Program Fee: \$6 per participant
Maximum: 100 participants**



Deering Estate of Cutler

Summer EcoAdventures 2010

16701 SW 72nd Ave, Miami, FL 33157

305-235-1668 Ext. 242 Office / 305-254-5866 Fax



Each visit consist of 2 options; however, Options A and B can not be combined within the same visit.

Option A: Archeological Program

Participants will learn about the Tequesta and other early settlers by excavating our disturbed midden for artifacts and animal remains. They will also hike to the Tequesta Indian burial mound where they will handle Tequesta artifacts. Appropriate for campers ages 6-12 year olds.

**Duration of program: 1.5-2 hrs. Program Fee: \$5 per participant
Maximum: 60 participants (Divided into two groups)**

Option B: Catching Critters Knee Deep

Visit the Deering Estate at Cutler and learn about Biscayne Bay and our marine neighbors that make the bay their home. Seine with nets for different types of marine animals, use marine friendly buckets to identify the various creatures that live in our aquatic back yards, and interact with the wonderful natural environment that borders our Miami-Dade County community. What an adventure! Counselors are required to participate (1:6 ratio). Lead counselor must bring a completed swim test log. Closed-toed shoes are required for campers and counselors. **MUST pass swim test and bring proof to participate.**

**Duration of program: 1.5-2 hrs. Program Fee: \$5 per participant
Maximum: 60 participants (Divided into two groups)**

Option C: Hardwood Hammock Tour

Participants will learn about the Tropical Hardwood Hammock and the plants and animals that live there. This is a half mile hike through the forest going over the rock ridge. Students will also hike to the Tequesta Indian burial mound where they will handle Tequesta artifacts. Appropriate for campers ages 6-15 year olds.

**Duration of program: 1.5-2 hrs. Program Fee: \$5 per participant
Maximum: 60 participants (Divided into two groups)**

Option D: Historic House Tour

Campers can enjoy walking through the beautiful historic buildings: The Richmond Cottage and the Stone House and learn about the historic town of Cutler and Charles Deering. This is a great field trip option and a wonderful alternative on a rainy day visit. Appropriate for ages 6-15 year olds.

**Duration of program: 1.5-3 hrs. Program Fee: \$5 per participant
Maximum: 60 participants (Divided into two groups)**



Greynolds Park

Summer EcoAdventures 2010



17530 West Dixie Hwy., North Miami Beach, FL 33160
305-944-6111 Office / 305-945-3428 Fax

Option A: Honors Canoe Workshop

Learn about safety equipment and methods, paddling techniques, proper posture, balance, stroke form, and how to properly hold the paddle. Learn the basics of getting in and out of a canoe, how to move your boat forwards, backwards, turn and spin. This program is geared for older kids who have demonstrated leadership skills.

Appropriate for ages 10-14 year olds. **MUST pass swim test and bring proof to participate.**

Duration of program: 2.5 hours, including 30-minute lunch break. Program Fee: \$8 per participant

Maximum: 14 Campers

Option B: Exploring Woodland Trails!

Kids will explore park trails with a naturalist guide to observe and learn about the native plants and animals that live there. This is a half-mile hike through the forest and along the Oleta River. Tour is appropriate for kids 7 years and older.

Duration of program: 1.5-2 hours. Program Fee: \$ 6.00 per participant.

Maximum 60 participants (Divided into 2 groups)



Matheson Hammock

Summer EcoAdventures 2010



9610 Old Cutler Road, Miami, FL
305-662-4125 Office

Option A: Honors Canoe Workshop: Exploring Biscayne Bay!

Learn about safety equipment and methods, paddling techniques, proper posture, balance, stroke form, and how to properly hold the paddle. Learn the basics of getting in and out of a canoe, how to move your boat forwards, backwards, turn and spin. Participants will be able to apply their skills exploring part of the bay shoreline in a canoe. This program is geared for older kids who have demonstrated leadership skills. Appropriate for ages 10-14 year olds. **MUST pass swim test and bring proof to participate.**

Duration of program: 2.5 hours, including 30-minute lunch break. Program Fee: \$8 per participant

Maximum: 14 Campers

Option B: Matheson Hammock Park Wading Tour

Explore the mangrove fringes and shallow grass and sand flats that provide an important habitat for a variety of marine life living in Biscayne Bay. Kids will explore these unique habitats and will likely observe a variety of wading birds, horse-shoe crabs, mollusks, and other related marine life. This program is for kids that are ages 7 years and up. Participants' ages 7 - 9 years must wear Type 3 life jackets prior to approaching the shoreline and while on tour. **Duration of program: 1.5 - 2 hours. Program Fee: \$ 6.00 per participant.**

Maximum: 60 Participants (Divided into smaller groups)

Available only on Wednesdays and Thursdays in July and August